

ABSTRACT

AGASI, AUGUSTINA KRESIA. **The Rebellion of an Afghan Woman against Taliban Oppression Revealed through Kamila's Struggles in Gayle Tzemach Lemmon's *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana***. Yogyakarta: Department of English Letters, Faculty of Letters, Sanata Dharma University, 2014.

Gayle Tzemach's *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* tells about the struggle of an Afghan woman, Kamila, who struggles to keep her family survival and to maintain her freedom under Taliban regime. Taliban regime is a cruel regime that tortures Afghan people, especially women. Kamila has to suffer because the Taliban apply rules that eliminate women's freedom and productive life. Realizing that her life should go back to normal, she decides to rebel against Taliban's strict rules.

This research focuses on revealing Kamila's rebellion against Taliban oppression through her struggles. In this research, there are three questions related to the topic. The first question is how the character and the roles of Kamila are described in the novel, the second question is how Taliban oppression is depicted through Kamila's struggles, and the third question is how Kamila's rebellion as an Afghan woman is revealed in the novel.

In analyzing the questions the writer conducts library research. The primary source is the novel *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* itself while the secondary sources are some theoretical books, the sites from internet, and other sources that support the research. The approach that is used in this research is radical-libertarian feminist perspective because this research aims to show Kamila's rebellion to reject patriarchal system that oppresses her to be a passive and unproductive woman.

From the analysis, first, it shows that Kamila as an Afghan woman is educated, open-minded, and determined. She is also described as a risk taker. Second, as a daughter she is described as a responsible, obedient, brave, caring, and determine person. In her family, Kamila is also described as a leader and decision maker. Furthermore, Kamila has to struggle to live a productive life under Taliban regime. Kamila's struggles are seen through her suffering in undergoing her own life and in maintaining other women's freedom. Hence, she rebels against the Taliban by creating new perspective for being "true" woman, becoming androgynous woman, and empowering women.

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The Dressmaker of Khair Khana karya Gayle Tzemach menceritakan tentang perjuangan seorang wanita Afghanistan, Kamila yang berjuang untuk menjaga hidup keluarganya dan mempertahankan kebebasan selama rezim Taliban. Kamila harus menderita karena Taliban membatasi kebebasan dan kehidupan produktif wanita. Menyadari bahwa hidupnya harus kembali seperti semula, ia memutuskan untuk memberontak melawan aturan Taliban yang mengekang tersebut.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengungkap pemberontakan Kamila melawan penindasan Taliban melalui perjuangannya. Pada penelitian ini terdapat tiga pertanyaan yang berkenaan pada topik. Pertama, bagaimana karakter dan peranan Kamila digambarkan dalam novel, yang kedua bagaimana penindasan Taliban tergambar melalui perjuangan-perjuangan Kamila, dan yang ketiga bagaimana pemberontakan Kamila sebagai seorang wanita Afghanistan terungkap di dalam novel.

Dalam menganalisa pertanyaan tersebut, penulis melakukan studi pustaka. Sumber utama adalah novel *The Dressmaker of Khair Khana* sedangkan sumber pendukung adalah beberapa buku teori, situs internet, dan sumber lain yang mendukung penelitian. Pendekatan yang digunakan adalah radikal liberal feminis karena penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menunjukkan pemberontakan Kamila menolak sistem patriarki yang menekan ia untuk menjadi wanita yang pasif dan tidak produktif.

Dari hasil analisis, pertama, Kamila adalah seorang wanita Afghanistan yang terpelajar, berpikiran terbuka, dan bertekad kuat. Dia digambarkan sebagai pengambil resiko. Kedua, ia digambarkan sebagai anak perempuan yang bertanggung jawab, patuh, berani, peduli, dan tegas. Kamila digambarkan sebagai seorang pemimpin dan pengambil keputusan. Kamila harus berjuang untuk hidup produktif dibawah kekuasaan rezim Taliban. Perjuangan Kamila terlihat dari penderitaannya dalam menjalani hidupnya sendiri dan dalam menegakkan kebebasan wanita lainnya. Oleh karena itu, ia memberontak melawan Taliban dengan menciptakan perspektif baru tentang menjadi wanita seutuhnya, menjadi wanita *androgini*, dan memperdayakan wanita.